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AGRICULTURAL LIBRARIES INFORMATION NOTES

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WORD PROCESSOR APPLICATIONS AT THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY 1/

by David R. Hoyt
Educational Resources Staff
National Agricultural
Library
Beltsville, MD 20705

Introduction

I want to share with you some of the many activities, reports, and processes that the National Agricultural Library (NAL) has found necessary to automate *via* word processors. The system we use is capable of adding, subtracting, calculating; accepting alpha or numeric data; storing, sorting, searching, matching and displaying this data. We can communicate with outside, off site, main frame information retrieval systems such as Lockheed and BRS. We regard our word processors therefore, as fully operational computing systems. Because our applications are diverse, I have grouped them according to three classifications: (1) Management Information Systems, (2) Program Support Systems, and (3) Online Information Retrieval Systems.

Management Information Systems

NAL is a complex organization with an expert staff, a budget of several million dollars, a fifteen story library building in Beltsville, Maryland and a collection of over 1.7 million items. We produce our own data bases, offer current awareness literature services, online information retrieval services, and operate a regional document delivery system which spans the entire United States.

To enable our Director to manage this complexity, we have endeavored to automate all of the routine functions which we could identify and describe. In the realm of management information, most of this has been accomplished on the word processor.

Organization Charts

An administration needs to know where people are in an organization at all times for the most efficient grouping of their talents. A Repagination program allows us to create organization charts, draw blocks and diagrams, and move them around at will to maintain an accurate and up-to-date picture of the agency's personnel resources. It also enables us to visualize alternative structures--an important theoretical activity.

Personnel Tracking

Keeping track of our employment picture (categories of employment ranging from permanent full time to part time temporary) can be complicated. This management information system is designed to give the Director feedback about personnel resources. At any time we may have dozens of outstanding personnel actions underway, such as promotions, resignations, transfers to other units, changes in status, etc. By regularly updating and tracking this information on the word processor, the Director can spot actions moving too slowly through the system and take action before a crisis develops.

Status of Funds

Two management tools crucial to the successful operation of our organization are the Operating Plan and the Status of Funds Report. The operating plan shows how much money is available to spend in a given fiscal year, how it is expected to be obligated, and what funds have actually been spent thus far (status of funds). It is used by management for controlling the budget, establishing priorities for the disbursement of funds, and maintaining control over the whole budgetary process. We retrieve selected bits of information, such as how much has been spent on training or travel, or data base management, and produce separate reports on any given aspect of the budget. How often have you wanted to know how much has been spent to date on a particular class of items and been unable to extract the information because of inflexible budgetary procedures? The word processor's Financial program enabled us to change all that.

At any given time we are working on three separate budgets simultaneously: the current operating budget, the next fiscal year budget request working its way through Congress, and the following year's budgetary estimates and justifications being submitted to the Department and the President's Office of Management and Budget. While the politics of a budget are complex and could never be automated, the figures and write ups can and should be.

The Personnel Funds Report, an application for which the word processor was especially designed, is used to keep track of the payroll. It is a complicated, but routine, report consisting of employees' names, positions, pay scales, salary types, hours worked, hours cumulated, salary earned, and other bits of essential information. For this application we use Records Manager and Math Master programs, allowing the word processor to perform as a fully functional automatic computer that adds, subtracts, calculates, updates, and modifies data which produces a fresh report every other week.

Specialization

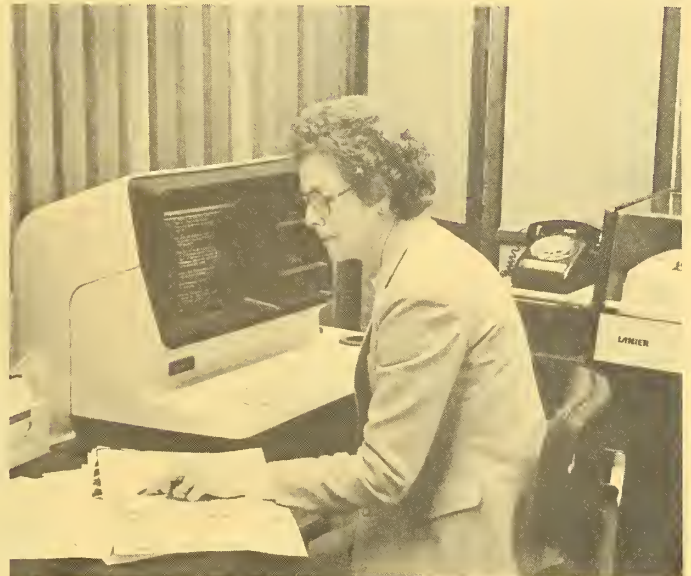
Suppose you want to know who in your organization speaks Basque, possesses a unique skill; was assigned to a special analysis budget team for nutrition standards or some other topic. Special assignments and skills can be immensely difficult to track. To solve this problem and provide management with essential information about who's doing what or going where, we developed an Official Representative, Special Assignment, and Area of Specialization data base. We update this data base and circulate it regularly to the staff for improved communications and better

coordination. It's amazing how people come forth with their own skills once they see what somebody else has identified on this list as their own!

Calendars

The Travel and Meeting Calendar lists scheduled meetings outside the agency, and allows us to keep track of who is going where, when, and for what purpose. This essential tool coordinates outside activities and maximizes the use of our scarce travel resources. For this application we use a Repagination program.

*Preparing the
Travel and
Meeting Calendar*



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Special Programs

We are constantly called upon to prepare special reports for management about our EEO and Affirmative Action or other special programs. We use the word processor to calculate our personnel profile, show minority hiring, their grade levels, percentages of the whole, promotions, etc. Once the data has been input, the reports can be generated and updated almost automatically. We use a Math Master/Snap program to generate these reports. Our use of the word processor for supporting management's information needs is extensive. This has resulted in a tremendous improvement in the efficiency with which energy is expended by management; and, correspondingly, it has resulted in an overall improvement of the agency's operating environment. Confusion, chaos and overlap are, if not eliminated, at least greatly reduced.

Program Support Systems

We use the word processor in program areas for storing and updating essential information necessary to create and search our data bases. This includes the AGRICOLA category codes, CRIS classification codes, and CALS retrieval codes. These classification manuals are lengthy, complicated, and would be difficult to manage, update, or prepare for publication on non-word processing equipment.

Labels and Correspondence

With a List Merge program we can create and store several hundred mailing addresses. These can then be searched by state, zip code, last name or other alphabetic descriptive; printed on gummed labels, or automatically inserted as the inside address for mass mailing of correspondence. The search, sort, list and insert capability of the word processor is impressive and, except for its speed, mimics that of a larger computer. We find that its use has become essential in supporting and handling our large volume of correspondence and mailings to Extension Centers, Experiment Stations, and Land-Grant Institutions.

Newsletters

Producing and publishing *Agricultural Libraries Information Notes (ALIN)* is a time-consuming task. The word processor is used for composition and layout. The advantages lie in the ease and flexibility in adding, deleting, and reassembling copy. As a result we have an attractive, inexpensive, and timely newsletter of *current* library information.

*The word processor
is used for
composition and
layout*



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Online Information Retrieval Systems

We have turned our word processors into fully operational "smart" terminals. We can, now that programming and testing is accomplished, communicate in an online mode with outside information retrieval systems and store the output internally. We have, in effect, doubled the value of our original investment!

We can now be working on a manuscript, bibliography, or researching a topic; log into Lockheed and retrieve information from our data bases (CRIS and AGRICOLA); memorize the output on diskettes; log off; and further edit, merge, sort or otherwise modify the citations; insert into letters; or store for future use. Since copyright issues are not involved with our own data bases, we can even retrieve several hundred citations, and memorize them on the word processor. The diskettes are then

*Word processors can
be used to retrieve
and store information
from outside retrieval
systems*




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mailed to a firm in Washington who processes the citations further according to our own specifications, and delivers a camera ready copy for rapid publication.

We can transmit our search results to a like word processor in another state or region and use the system for special delivery of electronic mail. We produced our first online bibliography using this new word processor capability when the Secretary of Agriculture wanted a search done immediately on the effects of volcanic ash on agriculture as a result of the Mount St. Helens eruption.

Conclusion

NAL has demonstrated that by creatively programming word processors for use as intelligent terminals for online information retrieval, we can regain some semblance of control over the automation process. This frees us up for more important and human assignments. Figures illustrating these various applications may be obtained from the author. 

1/This is an abridged version of a paper presented at the 18th Annual Clinic on Library Applications of Data Processing; April 26-29, 1981; The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The full paper including appendices will be published this fall by the University of Illinois.



NEWS NOTES

NORTH CENTRAL COMPUTER INSTITUTE

The University of Wisconsin-Madison announces the opening of the North Central Computer Institute. This is a 5 1/2-year project to assist and advise land-grant universities in the 12-state north central region in the development of management and information programs for farm families. The \$3 million project is funded in part by a \$1.5 million grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, MI. The participating universities carry the rest of the cost. The Institute will "seek to reduce program duplication among the states and to assume projects which have been too costly for an individual state to undertake," according to the announcement.

The Institute also plans to work to improve educational services and tools for training the people who will acquaint farm families with computers and computer programs. It will also sponsor newsletters and seminars, and promote computer programming as a professional activity. Member institutions include University of Illinois, Purdue University, Iowa State University, Michigan State University, University of Missouri, University of Nebraska, North Dakota State University, Ohio State University, and South Dakota State University.

*--Experiment Station Letter 1611,
August 21, 1981*

UPDATE ON COLLEGE OF AMERICAN SAMOA AND COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA


Public Law 96-374, passed last year, gave Land-Grant status to the Community College of American Samoa at Pago Pago

and the College of Micronesia at Ponape. These 2-year community colleges are currently establishing experiment stations and Extension Services and are adapting their agricultural courses to meet eligibility requirements.

Each college is eligible for the following money:

- More than \$500,000 annually for Experiment Stations from Hatch funds. All but \$90,000 must be matched dollar-for-dollar.
- More than \$500,000 annually for Extension Services from Smith-Lever funds. All this money must be matched dollar-for-dollar.
- Each gets a one-time grant of \$3 million from the U.S. Department of Education, but only the interest earned may be spent.
- \$50,000 annually under the Morrill-Nelson Act for agricultural education. This comes from the Department of Education.
- \$145,000 annually has been authorized under the Bankhead-Jones and the Morrill-Nelson Acts to support agricultural resident instruction programs in the two colleges. Congress is currently considering appropriations for this program.
- Charles Beer
Deputy Administrator, S&E, EXT.,
USDA

NAL TRAINING & EDUCATION WORKSHOP

The National Agricultural Library (NAL) will be sponsoring an intensive level AGRICOLA, CRIS, and CALS workshop the week of October 19-23, 1981 in Washington, D.C. This workshop is the first of six basic level courses which will be offered during the 1982 fiscal year. Individuals wishing to attend should submit their request to Educational Resources Staff, Room 408, NAL Bldg., Beltsville, MD 20705. ATTN: D. Hoyt. Telephone: (301)-344-3937. 



AGRICULTURAL TRANSLATIONS

This column is an alert to selected new receipts at NAL. They are available thru loan request (AD-245) to USDA personnel. Paid photoduplication to non-USDA persons is available (\$2/10 pages or fraction thereof per citation) Trans. No. and citation MUST be on request. Send to:

Lending Division
National Agricultural Library
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture
Beltsville, MD 20705

Berthelon, M. & Rampin, D. Attempts to Treat The Metritis of The Mare By a Solution of ChloramineT: Note 2. - Streptococcal Metritis. Translated from French: *Revue Med. Vet.*, 126(10): 1265-1287, 1975. Trans. No. 27314.

Catoni, C.H. When Will Argentina Wake Up in Preventing and Eradicating Brucellosis? Translated from Spanish: *Gac. Vet.*, 39(318): 126-130, 1977. Trans. No. 27397.

Dorozhkin, N.A. & Grebenshchikova, S.I. Effects of Light Intensity on The Concentration of Mosaic Viruses in Potato Plants. Translated from Russian: *Bot. (Issled) Beloruss, Vses. Bct.*, (18): 192-195, 1976. Trans. No. 27337.

Lange, S. & Kaaden, O.R. On The Tenacity of Animal Pathogenic Viruses in Offals Regarding Veterinary Hygiene. Translated from German: *Ubersichten Tierernah*, 6(2): 192-195, 1978. Trans. No. 27351.

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Ornelas-Santos, P.P., et.al. Bovine Brucellosis, I: Persistence of Vaccinal Agglutinin Titers in Zebu Heifers Immunized with Strain B-19. Translated from Portuguese: *Arq. Esc. Vet. Univ. Fed. Minas Gerais*, 27(3): 363-372, 1975. Trans. No. 27345.

Saupe, E. Possibilities of Control of Aujeszky's Disease in Swine Farms Control Measures in Fattening and Breeding Farms. Translated from German: *Deutsch Tierarztl. Wochenschr.*, 85(10): 408-413, 1978. Trans. No. 27361.

Shumilov, K.V. Vaccination of Calves Against Brucellosis. Translated from Russian: *Veterinariya*, (2): 53-55, 1978. Trans. No. 27353.

Sobko, A.I., et.al. Radial Immunodiffusion Reaction in Research with The FMD Virus. Translated from Russian: *Veterinariya, Moskva*, (9): 41-43, 1978. Trans. No. 27371.



PENCIL-PUSHING RESEARCH

Some "pencil-pushing" research reported in the Western Regional Agricultural Engineering Service publication no. 19, March 1976, puts a little bit different perspective on wind power as an alternative source:

"The water pumped in one year by a typical windmill costing \$1,000 to \$1,200 could be pumped by a 1/4 hp electric motor and pump at a cost of less than \$40 in utility electricity. Therefore, windmills and wind generators, where usable, are really practical only where electricity is not otherwise available, or where gasoline-powered generators cannot be attended."





NEW BIBLIOGRAPHIES

Agricultural Land Retention and Availability: A Bibliographic Source Book. Washington, D.C., National Agricultural Land Study. 1981. 47 p. 61 annotated citations. Order from: Publisher, 722 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006. Free. (NAL call no.: HD256.A4)

Bibliography of Ground-Water Studies in New Mexico, 1848-1979. Robert L. Borton. (New Mexico State Engineer. Special Publications). Santa Fe, New Mexico State Engineer Office. 1980. 46 p. 588 citations. A supplement to *Bibliography of Ground-Water Studies in New Mexico, 1873-1977*. Order from: Publisher, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501. Price unavailable. (NAL call no.: Z7935.B61 Suppl.).

A Bibliography of North American Gasteromycetes: I. Phalles. William R. Burk. (Bibliotheca Mycologia Bd. 73). Vaduz, J. Cramer. 1980. 216 p. Order from: Publisher, A.R. Gantner Verlag Kommanditgesellschaft, FL-9490 Vaduz, Liechtenstein. Price unavailable. (NAL call no.: Z5356.F97B9).

Bibliography of the Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station: Publications, 1901-1976. Catherine A. Hughes. (Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station. Research Report 240). Honolulu, Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawaii. 1980. 238 p. 749 citations. Order from: Agricultural Publications and Information Office, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawaii, 2500 Dole Street, Krauss Hall 107, Honolulu, HI 96822. price \$2.50 plus postage. (NAL call no.: 100 H313P).



A Bibliography of the Recent Literature on Beaver (1955-1979). Harry E. Hodgdon and Joseph S. Larson. (Massachusetts Agricultural Experiment Station. Research Bulletin, No. 665). Amherst, Massachusetts Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Massachusetts, College of Food and Natural Resources. 1980. 128 p. Approx. 1,575 citations. Order from: Publisher, Room 217, Stockbridge Hall, Amherst, MA 01003. Free. (NAL call no.: 100 M38H (1)).

Effects of Bank Stabilization on the Physical and Chemical Characteristics of Streams and Small Rivers: An Annotated Bibliography. Daniel H. Stern, Michele S. Stern, and Missouri Institute of River Studies. (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Office of Biological Services. FWS/OBS-80/12). Kearneysville. Eastern Energy and Land Use Team. Office of Biological Services, Fish and Wildlife Services, U.S. Dept. of the Interior. 1980. 78 p. 213 citations. Order from: Information Transfer Specialist, Eastern Energy and Land Use Team, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Route 3, Box 44, Kearneysville, WV 25430. Free. (NAL call no.: QH540.U56).

Environmental Effects of Surface Mining of Minerals Other Than Coal: Annotated Bibliography and Summary Report. Bland. Z. Richardson and Marilyn M. Pratt. (USDA Forest Service General Technical Report INT-95). Ogden, Utah, Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service. 1980. 145 p. 797 citations. Order from: Publisher, 860 North 12th East, Logan, UT 84321. Free. (NAL call no.: aSD11.A48).

The Excess Lands Provisions of Federal Reclamation Law: A Bibliography and Chronology. Gerald R. Ogden. Davis, University of California, Agricultural History Center. 1980. 136 p. Approx. 1,152 annotated citations. Order from: Publisher, Davis, CA 95616. Free. (NAL call no.: Z7164.L304).

The First Hundred Years: A Historical Bibliography of New Zealand Loess, 1878-1978. Ian J. Smalley and Jewel E. Davin. (New Zealand Soil/Bureau



Bibliographic Report No. 28).
Wellington, Dept. of Scientific and
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Approx. 160 annotated citations. Order
from: New Zealand Soil Bureau, Dept.
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Wellington, New Zealand. Price
unavailable. (NAL call no.:
Z5074.S7N4).

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annotated citations. Price
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*Yellow Poplar (Liriodendron tulipifera
L.): An Annotated Bibliography to and
Including 1974.* Roland E. Schoenike.
Clemson, South Carolina, Clemson
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citations. Order from: Department of
Forestry, Clemson University, Clemson,
SC 29631. Price unavailable. (NAL
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NEW PUBLICATIONS OF NOTE

*Conservation Tillage and Conventional
Tillage: A Comparative Assessment.* Pierre
Crosson. Ankeny, IA., Soil Conservation
Society of America (1981). 35 p. \$4.00
(SCSA members); \$5.00 (non-members)
postpaid. Order from Society, 7515
Northeast Ankeny Road, Ankeny, IA 50021.

Elements of Marine Biology. R.V. Tait.
3rd edition. London, Boston. Butterworth
(1981). 356 p. \$21.95. ISBN
0-408-71054-3. Order from Publisher, 10
Tower Office Park, Woburn, MA 01801.

*Federal Water Resources Research: A Review
of the Proposed Five-Year Program Plan.*
Water Resources Research Review Committee;
Commission on Natural Resources, National
Research Council. (Washington, D.C.,
National Academy Press, 1981). 90 p.
Available from Commission on Natural
Resources, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20418.

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Board; Division of Biological Sciences,
Assembly of Life Sciences, National
Research Council. (Washington, D.C.,
National Academy Press, 1981). 766 p.
\$45.00 ISBN 0-309-03090-0. Order from
Publisher, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20418.

*International Directory of Documentation
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Products.* Peter A. Evans and Gary L.
Skupa. Berkeley, CA., Pacific Southwest
Forest and Range Experiment Station
(1981). (General Technical Report PSW-47).
Free. Order from Publisher, P.O. Box 245,
Berkeley, CA 94701. Lists 120 documenta-
tion services concerned with forestry,
forest products or related fields in 28
countries.



QUICK BIBLIOGRAPHY SERIES

The bibliographies in this series are primarily computerized online or batch bibliographies emanating from searches performed by the NAL Reference Staff in response to customer requests.

Searches are selected for inclusion based on the currency of the topic, interest among clientele, relative length (approximately 150 citations or more) and probable value to a larger audience. All titles in this series will be listed for six months. Revisions or updates will be renumbered and reannounced. Only one copy of a title will be sent; however, requestors may make copies. To request a copy of a Quick Bibliography send the title, series number, and a return addressed label to:

Reference Branch, Room 302
National Agricultural Library
Beltsville, MD 20705

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NAL--BIBL.--81-10. *Wind Erosion and Its Control, 1969-Feb. 1981*. 229 citations from AGRICOLA. Search by Charles N. Bebee. April 1981.

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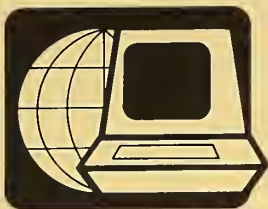
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USDA BIBLIOGRAPHIES

Clearances have been given to USDA authors to compile or publish the titles listed below. These titles have not been published as yet and therefore, are not available for distribution. Upon publication, they will be cited in the "New Bibliographies" or "New Publications of Note" column of this publication.

Fire Research in the 1970's---A Bibliography of Forest Service Fire Research Publications. Andrea M. Shaw and James B. Davis. For information contact authors, Fire Planning and Economics, Forest Fire and Atmospheric Sciences Research, U.S. Forest Service, Room 606, Rosslyn Plaza E., 1621 N. Kent Street, Rosslyn, VA. 



AGRICOLA

AGRICOLA USER GROUP MEETING

NAL will hold its first AGRICOLA User Group meeting following the ASIS Conference in Washington, D.C. The date is October 30, 1981, 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Washington Hilton Hotel. There will be a tour of the NAL facilities in the afternoon.

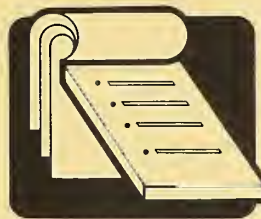
The meeting is open to AGRICOLA tape processors, online searchers, and end users.

The program will include a review of the system to date with a description of some changes envisioned for 1982. Participants will form interest groups to discuss tape processing, online searching, and database coverage. Recommendations and discussions on issues raised by these groups will follow. A set of final recommendations will then be compiled. For further information contact Joseph Judy, ISD/NAL. Telephone: (301)-344-3813.

AGRICOLA PROFILE

A profile of the AGRICOLA/MARC database has been prepared by the Information Systems Division. This profile lists all the MARC tags and subfield codes used from the time NAL started with MARC as a communications format. Each tag is listed with the frequency of occurrence, average character length, and longest length of text. There are profiles for the combined database and for each separate file.

The profiles have been distributed to our tape users and are available upon request from the Information Systems Division, 5th floor, NAL Building, Beltsville, MD 20705. Telephone: (301)-344-3813.



NEW SERIALS RECEIVED AT NAL

Acta Oecologica & OEcologia Plantarum. Paris, Gauthier-Villars. q. Vol. 1, no. 3, 1980- QK901.A103
Continues in part *OEcologia Plantarum.*

Current Technology Index: CTI. London, Library Association Publishing. a. Vol 1, 1981- Z7913.B72
Supersedes *British Technology Index.*

Dairy and Food Sanitation: A Publication of the International Association of Milk, Food, and Environmental Sanitarians, Inc. Ames, IA., The Association. m. Vol. 1, 1981- SF221.D342

Developments in Agricultural Engineering. Amsterdam; New York, Elsevier Scientific Publishing Company. irr. Vol. 1, 1980- S671.D44

Electron Microscopy in Biology. New York, Wiley. a. Vol. 1, 1981- QH212.E4E54

Journal of Craniofacial Genetics and Developmental Biology. New York, Alan R. Liss. q. Vol. 1, 1981- RB155.J6

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Supersedes *Soil Conservation.*

Teratogenesis, Carcinogenesis, and Mutagenesis. New York, Alan R. Liss. q. Vol. 1, 1980- RC261.A1T4

Topics in Geobiology. New York, Plenum. irr. Vol. 1, 1980- QE1.T6





AGRICULTURE DATEBOOK

1982


January 10-15: *Third International Conference on Goat Production and Disease*. Tucson, AZ. Contact: Kent Leach, Publisher, Dairy Goat Journal, P.O. Box 1808, Scottsdale, AZ 85252. Tel: (602) 991-4628.


February 8-12: *International Society for Human and Animal Mycology*. VIIIth Congress. Palmerston, NZ. Contact: Secretariat, Massey University, University of Extension, P.O. Box 63, Palmerston, New Zealand.

March 1-6: *State 4-H and Home Economics Leaders' Workshop*. Chevy Chase, MD. National 4-H Center. Contact: Opal Mann or Eleanor Wilson, SEA/Extension, Room 5407, South Agriculture Building, Washington, D.C. Tel: (202) 447-2908.

May 23-29: *International Symposium on Dietary Fibre in Human and Animal Nutrition*. Palmerston, NZ. Contact: Secretariat, Massey University, P.O. Box 63, Palmerston, New Zealand.

August 7-14: *International Congress of Parasitology*. 5th. Toronto, Canada. Contact: Secretariat, ICOPA V, Dept. of Zoology, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada M5S 1A1.

December 6-10: *International Conference on Chemistry and World Food Supplies--The New Frontier (CHEMRAWN II)*. Manila, Philippines. Contact: Joyce Torio, CHEMRAWN II Coordinating Office, International Food Policy Research Institute, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. 

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November 2-5: *USDA Outlook Conference*. Washington, D.C. Contact: Sally Michael, WFAOSB, Rm. 3510 So. Agri. Bldg., U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

November 8-11: *National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges*. Contact: Ruth N. Smith, Suite 710, 1 Dupont Circle, Washington, D.C. 20036. Tel: (202) 293-7120.

November 9-12: *National Extension Wildlife and Fisheries Workshop*. Baton Rouge, LA. Contact: James Fowler, Ext. Wildlife Specialist, Louisiana State University, Cooperative Extension Service, Knapp Hall, Baton Rouge, LA 70805. Tel: (504) 388-4141.

November 11-13: *Small Farms in a Changing World: Prospects for the Eighties*. Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas. Contact: Farming Systems Research Symposium, International Agricultural Programs, Waters Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506. (913) 532-5715.

November 15-18: *Research for Small Farms*. Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, Science and Education Administration, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Beltsville, MD. Contact: Special Symposium Office, Room 230, Building 003, BARC-West, USDA, Beltsville, MD 20705.

December 8-10: *Fifth International On-line Information Meeting*. London, England. Contact: Organizing Secretary, Online Information Meetings, Online Review, Learned Information, Besselsleigh Road, Abingdon, Oxford OX 13 6LG, England. Tel: 0865-730275. Telex: 837704.